

1 AN ACT relating to candidates for statewide office.

2 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

3 ➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 121 IS CREATED TO
4 READ AS FOLLOWS:

5 (1) At the same time a candidate for statewide office, other than a write-in candidate
6 under KRS 117.265, files his or her nomination papers under Section 2 of this
7 Act, he or she shall:

8 (a) File with the Registry of Election Finance a copy of the federal income tax
9 return described in 26 U.S.C. sec. 6103(b)(1) that he or she filed with the
10 Internal Revenue Service for the three (3) most recent taxable years; and
11 (b) Provide written consent to the Registry of Election Finance, in a form
12 promulgated by the registry by administrative regulation under KRS
13 Chapter 13A, for the public disclosure of the returns described in paragraph
14 (a) of this subsection.

15 (2) Federal income tax returns filed with the Registry of Election Finance under this
16 section by a candidate for statewide office shall be made publicly available on the
17 Web site of the Registry of Election Finance no later than seven (7) days after the
18 candidate's federal income tax returns have been filed under subsection (1) of
19 this section, subject to redaction by the registry under subsection (3) of this
20 section.

21 (3) Prior to making public any federal income tax return filed under this section, the
22 Registry of Election Finance shall redact information that the registry deems
23 appropriate to protect the candidate's privacy.

24 (4) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, if a candidate for statewide office
25 does not timely file his or her income tax returns with the Registry of Election
26 Finance under this section, that candidate's name shall not be printed upon the
27 official ballot for an election under Section 2 of this Act.

1 ➔Section 2. KRS 118.125 is amended to read as follows:

2 (1) Except as provided in KRS 118.155, any person who is qualified under the
3 provisions of KRS 116.055 to vote in any primary for the candidates for nomination
4 by the party at whose hands he or she seeks the nomination, shall have his or her
5 name printed on the official ballot of his or her party for an office to which he is
6 eligible in that primary, upon filing, with the Secretary of State or county clerk, as
7 appropriate, at the proper time, a notification and declaration.

8 (2) The notification and declaration shall be in the form prescribed by the State Board
9 of Elections. It shall be signed by the candidate and by not less than two (2)
10 registered voters of the same party from the district or jurisdiction from which the
11 candidate seeks nomination. Signatures for nomination papers shall not be affixed
12 on the document to be filed prior to the first Wednesday after the first Monday in
13 November of the year preceding the year in which the office will appear on the
14 ballot.

15 (a) The notification and declaration for a candidate for an office other than
16 Governor or Lieutenant Governor shall include the following oath:

17 "For the purpose of having my name placed on the official primary
18 election ballot as a candidate for nomination by the ----- Party, I, ----- (name
19 in full as desired on the ballot as provided in KRS 118.129), do solemnly
20 swear that my residence address is ----- (street, route, highway, city if
21 applicable, county, state, and zip code), that my mailing address, if different,
22 is ----- (post office address), and that I am a registered ----- (party) voter in ---
23 --- precinct; that I believe in the principles of the ----- Party, and intend to
24 support its principles and policies; that I meet all the statutory and
25 constitutional qualifications for the office which I am seeking; that if
26 nominated as a candidate of such party at the ensuing election I will accept the
27 nomination and not withdraw for reasons other than those stated in KRS

1 118.105(3); that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any law
2 relating to corrupt and fraudulent practice in campaigns or elections in this
3 state, and if finally elected I will qualify for the office."

4 The declaration shall be subscribed and sworn to before an officer authorized
5 to administer an oath by the candidate and by the two (2) voters making the
6 declaration and signing the candidate's petition for office.

7 (b) The notification and declaration for a slate of candidates for Governor and
8 Lieutenant Governor shall include the following oath:

9 "For the purpose of having our names placed on the official primary
10 election ballot as a slate of candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor
11 for nomination by the ----- Party, I, -----, (name of candidate for Governor in
12 full as desired on the ballot as provided in KRS 118.129), do solemnly swear
13 that my residence address is ----- (street, route, highway, city if applicable,
14 county, state, and zip code), that my mailing address, if different, is ----- (post
15 office address), and that I am a registered ----- (party) voter in ----- precinct;
16 and I, -----, (name of candidate for Lieutenant Governor in full as desired on
17 the ballot as provided in KRS 118.129), do solemnly swear that my residence
18 address is ----- (street, route, highway, city if applicable, county, state, and zip
19 code), that my mailing address, if different, is ----- (post office address), and
20 that I am a registered ----- (party) voter in ----- precinct; that we believe in
21 the principles of the ----- Party, and intend to support its principles and
22 policies; that we meet all the statutory and constitutional qualifications for the
23 offices which we are seeking; that we will accept the nomination and not
24 withdraw for reasons other than those stated in KRS 118.105(3); that we will
25 not knowingly violate any election law or any law relating to corrupt or
26 fraudulent practice in campaigns or elections in this state, and if finally elected
27 we will qualify for our offices."

1 The declaration shall be subscribed and sworn to before an officer authorized
2 to administer an oath by the candidate and by the two (2) voters making the
3 declaration and signing the petition for office.

4 (3) When the notice and declaration has been filed with the Secretary of State or county
5 clerk, as appropriate, and certified according to KRS 118.165, and the federal
6 income tax returns described in Section 1 of this Act have been filed with the
7 Registry of Election Finance, the Secretary of State or county clerk, as appropriate,
8 shall have the candidate's name printed on the ballot according to the provisions of
9 this chapter, except as provided in KRS 118.185.

10 (4) Titles, ranks, or spurious phrases shall not be accepted on the filing papers and shall
11 not be printed on the ballots as part of the candidate's name; however, nicknames,
12 initials, and contractions of given names may be acceptable as the candidate's name.